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	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/890,583	ECKERBOM ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Mr. Terry K. Cecil	1723
The MAILING DATE of this communication app ars on the cov r sheet with the correspond nc address All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.		
1. This communication is responsive to 12-7-2004.		
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 6, 8-13, 16 and 18-19 respectively renumbered upon allowance as claims 1-13.		
3. The drawings filed on <u>02 November 2001</u> are accepted by the Examiner.		
<ul> <li>4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).</li> <li>a)  All b)  Some* c)  None of the:  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.</li> <li>2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No</li> <li>3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</li> <li>* Certified copies not received:</li> </ul>		
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.		
5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.		
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.		
(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached		
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date		
(b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date		
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).		
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.		
Attachment(s)  1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0 Paper No./Mail Date  4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	6. ⊠ Interview Summary Paper No./Mail Dat 08), 7. ⊠ Examiner's Amendr	ite <u>0105</u> .

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Note: Claims 1-3, 6, 8-13, 16 and 18-19 are allowed and have been respectively renumbered upon allowance as claims 1-13.

## **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

- 1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with T. Perkins on 1-10-2005.
- 2. The application has been amended as follows:
- Claim 1, line 14, "connection devices" has been replaced with —at least one connection device—.

## Reasons for Allowance

3. Applicants' amendments to the claims have obviated the claim objections. Applicant has included claim 5 in parent claim 1. Reasons for indicating the subject matter of claim 5 as allowable was given in the prior office action, as well as, reasons for allowing independent claims 8 and 18.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

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Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for

Allowance."

Contact Information:

• Examiner Mr. Terry K. Cecil can be reached at (571) 272-1138 at the Carlisle campus in

Alexandria, Virginia for any inquiries concerning this communication or earlier

communications from the examiner. Note that the examiner is on the increased flextime

schedule but can normally be found in the office during the hours of 8:30a to 4:30p, on at

least four days during the week M-F.

• Wanda Walker, the examiner's supervisor, can be reached at (571) 272-1151 if attempts to

reach the examiner are unsuccessful.

• The Fax number for this art unit for official faxes is 703-872-9306.

• Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published

applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information

for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information

about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access

to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197

(toll-free).

Mr. Terry K. Cecil-Primary Examiner Page 3

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TKC

January 10, 2005